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Hillary Hart
8140 Canterbury Circle
Largo, FL 33777

March 20, 1999

Commissioner,
U. S. FDA
Dockets and Management Branch Room 1-23
12420 Parklawn Drive
Rockville, MD 20857

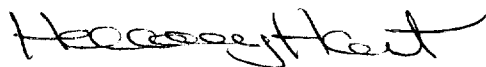
Dear Commissioner,

I am writing to you to urge you to grant docket number 98P-0151/CP1 and make a rule that would label down animals as adulterated and unfit for human consumption.

The slaughter of downed animals for food poses an unnecessary threat to human health and is in fact a violation of federal law. Animals too sick or injured to walk - called "downers" - continue to endure cruel handling and neglect at stockyards. They are often kicked, beaten, shocked with electric prods, dragged with ropes or chains, trampled, and left without food, water, shelter, or veterinary care until they die or are trucked to slaughter. They are not euthanized because they are worth more money if they reach slaughter alive and can be sold for human consumption. If there were no incentive for keeping these animals alive, the industry would be willing to euthanize them rather than forcing them to endure more pain and suffering.

I thank you for taking the time to read my letter and take my comments into consideration in making your decision to grant docket 98P-0151/CP1.

Sincerely,



Hillary Hart

98P-0151

C1951

Hillary Hart
8140 Canterbury Cir
Largo FL 33777-3041
HSUS - Adopt a Pet, a Friend for Life



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